



## KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

### DECEMBER BOARD NOTES

(NOTE: The agenda and materials for all Kentucky Board of Education meetings can be found on the board's online materials site at: <http://portal.ksba.org/public/Agency.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4388&AgencyTypeID=1>. Also, a recording of the December 4 session can be found at <http://education.ky.gov/KBE/meet/Pages/default.aspx> link.

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#### Volume 21, No. 6 -- Report of the December 3-4, 2013, Regular Meeting

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##### ***COMMENTS FROM ROGER L. MARCUM, KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIR***

On November 21, 2013, the Prichard Committee and the Kentucky Education Action Team (KEAT) held a summit, ***Education Summit: Our Kids Can't Wait***, focused on adequacy of funding. Attending the summit were students, teachers, principals, superintendents, present and former legislators, former Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) member Billy Harper, former KBE chairs Helen Mountjoy and Joe Kelly, along with Prichard Committee and KEAT members. Also in attendance were Commissioner Holliday, five current KBE members (Brigitte Ramsey, Mary Gwen Wheeler, Judy Gibbons, Nawanna Privett and myself) and Lt. Governor Jerry Abramson.



The purpose of the summit was to inform and empower all of us as advocates for adequate funding of P-12 public education. Commissioner Holliday made the case for restoration of funding by emphasizing the need for the Kentucky General Assembly to keep the commitment it made in 2009 with the passage of Senate Bill 1, now known as Unbridled Learning. His knowledge, expertise and passion were praised by those in attendance.

Andrew Brennen, a Paul Laurence Dunbar High School senior, made us all proud when he presented a student's perspective on the impact of inadequate funding. Fayette County Superintendent and Council for Basic Education President Tom Shelton updated us on the most recent Kentucky Education Adequacy Study. Lt. Governor Abramson made an impassioned call for action in support of tax reform to provide adequate funding for P-12 public education and other essential services.

As a culminating activity, Ronda Harmon, Kentucky Association of School Councils Executive

Director, and retired superintendent of Kenton County Schools, Tim Hanner, led us in regional roundtable discussions to develop local plans of action.

It was both exciting and encouraging to see so many important stakeholders work together on this vital concern of providing adequate resources for P-12 public education. I encourage each local superintendent to piggy-back on this effort and meet with your state legislators to emphasize the need for increased funding for education in the upcoming legislative session and the significant blow to educational progress that will occur if no action is taken.

### **BOARD APPROVES 2014 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

At its December 4 session, the Kentucky Board of Education approved the [2014 Legislative Agenda](#). Funding is the top priority in that agenda with requests to the General Assembly to:

- restore Support Education Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK) funding to 2009 levels, raising per pupil funding from \$3,827 to \$3,866;
- restore Flexible Focus Funds for professional development, safe schools, extended school services, textbooks and preschool to 2008 levels (*Professional Development \$9,700,000; Safe Schools \$6,200,000; Extended School Services \$19,600,000; Textbooks \$21,700,000; Preschool \$3,800,000 – TOTAL FY 15: \$61,000,000 FY 16: \$61,000,000*);
- provide technology funding to increase bandwidth and pay back a bond that would support district replacement of computers and/or mobile devices with up-to-date instructional devices (*FY 15: \$20,300,000 FY16: \$20,300,000*);
- provide funding that would expand career opportunities and technical skills attainment for high school students in support of college/career-readiness (*FY15: \$7,755,500 FY16: \$7,779,500*);
- support district turnaround efforts that would assist schools, especially persistently low-achieving schools and districts in need of improvement and turnaround (*FY15: \$3,400,000 FY16: \$4,770,000*);
- provide funding for capital projects at the Kentucky School for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Deaf, a maintenance pool and \$50 million Instructional Device Replacement Bond (*Capital Plan TOTAL: \$62,364,000*)

For more information on the legislative agenda, contact Legislative Liaison Tracy Herman at [Tracy.herman@education.ky.gov](mailto:Tracy.herman@education.ky.gov) or via phone at (502) 564-4474, ext. 4815.

### **BOARD HEARS UPDATE ON PGES**

Associate Commissioner Felicia Smith provided the Kentucky Board of Education with an update on the status of the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES) for teachers. The board learned that the summative model is almost finalized and that it will combine ratings on the four domains in the *Framework for Effective Teaching*, evidence from measures of effective teaching (observation, student voice, professional growth plans, self-reflection and district-determined measures) along with Student Growth ratings (student growth percentiles) to determine an overall performance category of exemplary, accomplished, developing or ineffective and a rating of professional growth (low, expected or high). A teacher's

improvement plan would then be determined on where he or she falls within this matrix along with how long the plan runs and whether it will be directed or self-directed.

Further discussion of the summative model will occur at the next meeting of the Teacher Effectiveness Steering Committee. The committee will then make recommendations on the model that will be incorporated into an administrative regulation scheduled for its first reading before the board in February with approval to occur in April.

For more information on the PGES, contact Associate Commissioner Felicia Smith at [Felicia.smith@education.ky.gov](mailto:Felicia.smith@education.ky.gov) or via phone at (502) 564-9850, ext. 4151.

### ***DR. SAMUEL ROBINSON AWARD GOES TO TWO RECIPIENTS***

The Kentucky Board of Education presented the annual Dr. Samuel Robinson Award to two recipients at the December 4 meeting. Recognized were the Fayette County Equity Council and Dr. Ronnie Nolan, Director of the Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children (KECSAC).

Since 2004, the Dr. Samuel Robinson Award has been conferred on an individual or group in Kentucky for outstanding leadership, commitment and service in promoting equity and opportunity to learn at high levels for all Kentucky students.

Dr. Samuel Robinson, for whom the award is named, is a former educator, served on the Kentucky Board of Education from 1991 until 2004, is known for being a racial and social justice advocate and for promoting the difference education can make in the lives of all students.

Kentucky Board of Education Chair Roger Marcum cited some of the Fayette County Equity Council's outstanding achievements as:

- eliminating color-coded lunch passes that identify students who received reduced-price or free meals; modifying student attendance policies to accommodate students who miss school for Jewish and other non-Christian holidays; and ending the custom of female students serving as "little sisters" to male athletes and running errands for them
- facilitating an improvement in the learning environments for students with special needs and low-income students
- helping to decrease the disproportionate number of suspensions and disciplinary actions involving African-American students and students with disabilities
- publishing an annual Equity Scorecard "illuminating the path to a world-class education for every student"

Relative to Dr. Nolan, Chair Marcum indicated that Nolan:

- is internationally recognized for his work on truancy and dropout prevention and under his leadership KECSAC staff organized the largest conference in Kentucky specifically designed to provide professional development for teachers of at-risk students

- devotes not only his professional skills but also his personal time and efforts to volunteer and advocate for the nearly 13,000 at-risk children in the care and/or custody of the state each year

For more information on the winners and/or the Dr. Samuel Robinson Award, contact Mary Ann Miller at [maryann.miller@education.ky.gov](mailto:maryann.miller@education.ky.gov) or via phone at (502) 564-3141, ext. 4840.

### ***COMMISSIONER HOLLIDAY'S EVALUATION APPROVED AND GOALS FOR 2013-14 ACCEPTED***

The official written evaluation document for Commissioner Terry Holliday was approved and presented to him at the December 4 meeting. The document contained both commendations for accomplishments as well as areas for growth.

Following the approval of the evaluation document, Commissioner Holliday presented his goals for 2013-14, which were accepted by the board.

Both the evaluation document and the goals for 2013-14, as well as the commissioner's self-evaluation that was reviewed by the board in October, can be found at the following link:

<http://education.ky.gov/CommOfEd/Pages/default.aspx>.

### ***OTHER ITEMS APPROVED AT THE DECEMBER MEETING WERE:***

- Statement of Consideration for 704 KAR 3:305, Minimum Requirements for High School Graduation
- 703 KAR 5:080, Administration Code for Kentucky's Assessment Program
- 703 KAR 5:070, Procedures for the Inclusion of Special Populations in the State Required Assessment and Accountability Programs
- Restoration of school-based decision making authority to Highland-Turner Elementary (Breathitt County), Trapp Elementary (Clark County), Deer Park Elementary (Daviess County) and Horse Branch Elementary (Ohio County)
- Appointments of Wendy M. King and Patti Bowman to the State Textbook Commission
- Appointment of Mike Flynn to the Kentucky School for the Blind Advisory Committee
- Minutes from the October 7-8, 2013 Kentucky Board of Education regular meeting
- Declaring the Fleming County School District as state-assisted
- 2013-14 Local district working budgets
- 2013-14 Local district tax rates levied
- Consolidated Annual Report for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act and acceptance of the improvement plan for the two unmet state levels of performance
- Appointment of David Karem as chair and Brigitte Ramsey and Bill Twyman as members of the Johnnie Grissom Award selection committee
- Mediation agreement between the Kentucky Board of Education and Breathitt County Board of Education

### ***OTHER ITEMS REVIEWED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN WERE:***

- 702 KAR 3:300, Approval for school district lease and retirement incentive annuity agreements
- Efforts to Improve Teacher Preparation in Kentucky

- Hearing Officer's report on status of regulations
- Update on Robertson County State Assistance
- Professional Growth and Effectiveness System Update
- KDE Employment Reports (Both for CTE and all KDE Offices)
- Strategic Plan Update

### ***KBE MEETING DATES***

#### **KBE Meeting Dates for 2014**

February 5, 2014	Regular meeting	Frankfort
April 9, 2014	Regular meeting	Frankfort
June 4, 2014	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 6-7, 2014	KBE Retreat & Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 7, 2014	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 3, 2014	Regular meeting	Frankfort

#### **KBE Meeting Dates for 2015**

February 4, 2015	Regular meeting	Frankfort
April 1, 2015	Regular meeting	Frankfort
June 3, 2015	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 5-6, 2015	KBE Retreat & Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 6, 2015	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 9, 2015	Regular meeting	Frankfort

For more information on meeting dates, contact Susan Palmer at (502) 564-3141, Ext. 4805 or via e-mail at [susan.palmer@education.ky.gov](mailto:susan.palmer@education.ky.gov).

*The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the December 3-4, 2013, regular meeting, conducted in the State Board Room, Capital Plaza Tower, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.*

*For additional information about the Kentucky Board of Education meetings, agendas, minutes or special accommodations needed for attending meetings, contact Mary Ann Miller, Policy Advisor, at (502) 564-3141.*

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